

REPLACEMENT CLAIM 1

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Claim 1. Thread coupling for a drill string for percussive rock drilling comprising a male thread (5) and a female thread (4) cooperating therewith, said male thread being arranged on a first drill string element (3) and said female thread being arranged on a second drill string element (2), that said first drill string element (3) has a first impact surface (6) and that said second drill string element (2) has a second impact surface (7), said first and second impact surfaces being arranged to abut against each other, characterized in that said male thread (5) and said female thread (4) are conical and that the crests (8) of said male thread (5) have a radius of curvature which is larger than 30% of the pitch of the thread.

ADDED CLAIMS 2 - 4

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Claim 2. The thread coupling as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the angle of the cone defined by the male thread (5) and the female thread (4) is less than  $20^{\circ}$ .

C2 Claim 3. The thread coupling as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the angle of the cone defined by the male thread (5) and the female thread (4) is between  $2^{\circ}$  -  $5^{\circ}$ .

Claim 4. The thread coupling as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the angle of the cone defined by the male thread (5) and the female thread (4) is  $3^{\circ}$ .

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